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SOURCE Messenger d'Athenes.REFUGEES DESCRIBE ALBANIAN DISCONTENT AND UNREST

According to refugees recently arriving in Greece, 90 percent of the Albanian population is strongly anti-Communist and their hatred for the regime grows daily. The possibilities of underground action are, however, limited. The Communist government holds the population in check by cruel repressive measures. Despite these, there are acts of resistance.

Last February, eight anti-Communists, disguised in security police uniforms, entered the village of Hocisht in the Korce area, and killed the Communist Fesim Kajo. At Zemblak, unidentified persons set fire to the local agricultural cooperative's granaries and tool sheds. Twenty persons were arrested on 19 March 1951. Two of them were condemned to hang, and two others were sentenced to 20 years of prison. The prosecutor in the "trial" was Lt Lioni Dimosi. Abdul Kalaja, one of the men sentenced to hang, confessed that the sabotage had been carried out on orders given by armed resistance groups of the area, with whose members he had been meeting at Zemblak, Ecmenik, and Gangonj.

Three officers and 12 soldiers of the army unit stationed in Pogradec reportedly deserted recently and fled to Yugoslavia. At the end of January 1951, there were demonstrations in front of the government bakery at Korce. One civilian was beaten to death by the police. The people subsequently referred to the establishment as the "death oven."

At Tirana, early in March 1951, an anti-Communist group reportedly attacked the Soviet Embassy, using automatic weapons and throwing a bomb. Several high Soviet officials and an Albanian minister were killed. Several of the attackers were also killed. Among the persons reportedly arrested in connection with the incident were: Minister Tuk Jakova, Generals Bekir Baluku and Muslim Peza, as well as Thymio Dimosis, member of the Korce committee.

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The Communist authorities have become concerned over the activity of the anti-Communist groups. Arrests have become increasingly frequent. The refugees supplying this information knew of forced labor camps at Tepelene, Ferma Kamze (also known as the "Red Star"), and at Vallia in the Tirana area.

The Albanian government has been carrying on a propaganda campaign designed to convince the people that Greek aggression against Albania is imminent. This is generally greeted by indifference on the part of the population.

Peasants are forced into cooperatives by the threat of forced labor. The much-vaunted aid to farmers is practically nonexistent. The State Central Bank, with headquarters in Tirana and branches in different villages, offers loans up to 10,000 lek for three farm families. Most of the peasants do not even trouble to apply for such an insignificant loan, since the price of even one ox is 12,000 lek. The rural population does not receive the normal food and other rations granted city dwellers. A peasant family, however, does receive 1 kilogram, 800 grams of gasoline kerosene? every 3 months, and 600 grams of salt per person. Such items as oil, rice, soap, etc., are unavailable to them:

Farmers are obliged to deliver to the state 44 kilograms per hectare of wheat, 49 of corn, 30 of barley, and 35 of beets. In addition for each hectare of land they must contribute 3.5 kilograms of meat, 0.5 kilogram of wool, and ten eggs. Over and above this, they are required to pay cash taxes, in proportion to the area of land operated by them.

Laborers' wages range from 80 to 150 lek per month, and in the mines are as high as 250 lek. Government officials receive from 2,500 to 5,000 lek.

Prices of commodities are extremely high. A kilogram of corn costs 80-100 lek, a kilogram of wheat 120-140 lek, a kilogram of butter 700 lek, one egg 10-12 lek. A wool-cotton suit sells at about 10,000 lek, and a pair of shoes, 1500-2,000 lek.

There is a serious food shortage, constantly growing worse. In the villages people trade largely by the barter system.

The majority of the population believes that war is inevitable, and would welcome a conflict to rid themselves of their Communist masters.

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